the PULSE
BOSTON, MASS. JUNE, 1961
NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL

NEW PROCEDURES IN SPECIAL CARE

New procedures for the Special Care Unit have been announced by Dr. John L. Rowbotham, chairman of the Deaconess Hospital Infection Committee.

Called "exclusion technique," the new system establishes barriers for the exclusion of bacteria and the prevention of cross-infections within the unit.

Effective immediately, masks and gowns must be worn; shoe dip must be employed by everyone entering the unit; there will be no visiting of patients in the Special Care Unit with the exception of limited visiting for those patients on the dangerously ill list.

Also, ultra-violet barriers and specific routes of traffic flow have been established.

As further protection for the patients, a one-room exclusion unit has been built, using a portion of the waiting room outside the unit.

Dr. Rowbotham explained that the procedures are a pilot study and may be altered at any time to suit the situation.

Friends Give $10,000

The Board of Directors of the Friends of the Deaconess voted a contribution of $10,000 to the hospital at their annual May luncheon, held at The Country Club, Brookline, on May 16.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Lowry and Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Sprague were guests of honor. Mr. Lowry expressed the appreciation of the hospital for the Friends' support and outlined future plans.

Three new members were elected unanimously at a meeting preceding the luncheon. They are Mrs. Theodore Badger, Mrs. Laurence Dakin and Mrs. Wendell Hiltabrand.

All Friends of the Deaconess are cordially invited to attend the Friends' annual picnic at the home of Mrs. Schields Warren in West Newton on Wednesday, June 7. If you desire transportation, call the Volunteer Office.

THREE-PART PROGRAM TO AID NEW EMPLOYEES

A new three-phase orientation procedure has recently been adopted by the Deaconess Hospital to provide new employees with knowledge about the history and physical characteristics of the hospital.

In addition, the new program will enable them to adopt themselves more rapidly to their jobs and hospital environment.

The first phase will consist of an orientation lecture by R. D. Lowry, executive director, to be presented on the second Monday and fourth Friday of each month. All new employees in recent years have heard these informative, informal talks by Mr. Lowry.

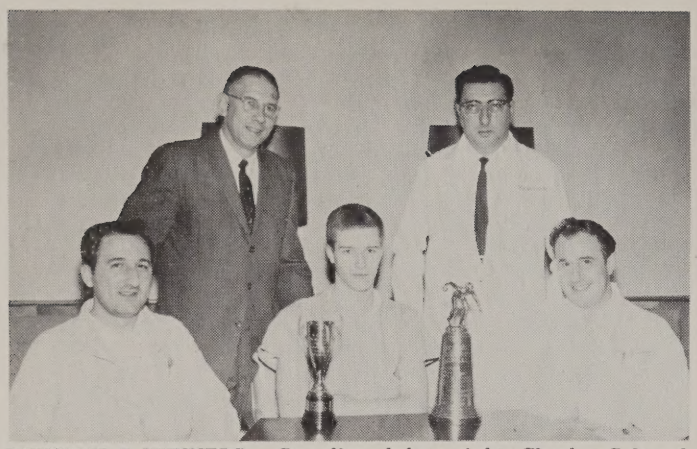
The second phase will consist of a guided tour of the hospital conducted by Mrs. Joan Buccino of the Personnel Department. New employees will visit all major areas of the hospital and will have an opportunity to meet many department heads and staff physicians. The tour will end in the cafeteria where refreshments will be served.

Final phase of the formal orientation will be a discussion of the personnel handbook "Glad to See You", under the supervision of Ellen Adams, personnel director.

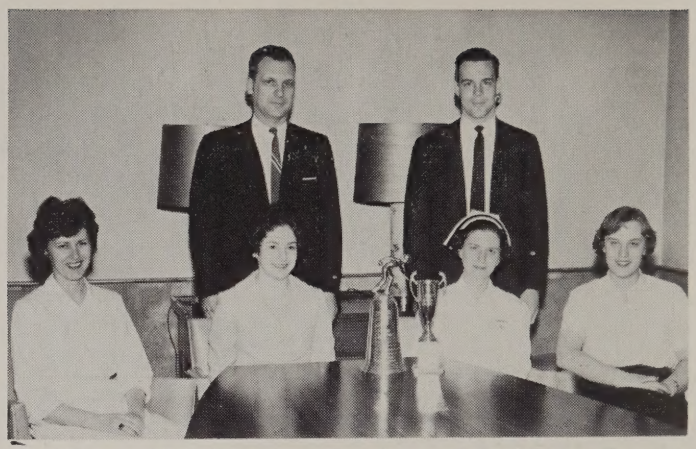
As an important follow-up to assist new employees, a member of the Personnel Department will visit them informally "on the job" during the second or third week of employment to answer any further inquiries or offer suggestions for benefit of the employee.

Attendance at the orientation sessions is mandatory. Employees will be paid should the period fall during their free time.

PASSING THE GAVEL—R. D. Lowry, executive director of the Deaconess Hospital, relinquishes the presidency of the Massachusetts Hospital Association to John L. Quigley of the Soldiers Home, Chelsea. The ceremony at the Statler Hilton Hotel marked the end of Mr. Lowry's year in office.



DIVISION A WINNERS — Standing, left to right, Charles Schraub and Conrad Cast; sitting, Frank Bettinelli, Jim Milnar and Pat Arrigo.



DIVISION B WINNERS — Standing, left to right, Wesley Sprague and Hubert Sycamore; sitting, Mary Rose Campbell, Priscilla Arnold, Lois Preston and Helen Herzog.

SCHRAUB AND SPRAGUE TEAMS WIN

An exciting down-to-the-wire finish climaxed the hospital's Bowling League season a few weeks ago, with Charles Schraub's team in Division A emerging victorious on the last week of play. Cliff Fisher's team finished a close second, only one point behind the winners. Walter Emory's team, which had held first place all season, had to settle for third place in the tightly-fought contest.

The Division B winner was Wes Sprague's team, which had no difficulty in holding the lead for most of the season. The teams captained by Charles Spaulding and Milt Nelson came in second and third.

A new Bowling League rule goes into effect this year, which prevents more than one award going to any one bowler. Because of this new rule, a few awards will go to the second-place winners in the various categories.

On Thursday evening, June 8, members of the Bowling League will hold their annual end-of-season party at Houghton's Pond in Blue Hills.

The de luxe steak or lobster dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. A baseball game will be played before dinner.

A variety show comprised of local talent and bowling awards ceremonies will take place after dinner.

Bowlers who plan to attend but do not have transportation to or from Houghton's Pond, please contact Charles Schraub in Pharmacy.

NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL BOWLING LEAGUE

FINAL STANDINGS

Division A — 934 Pts.

Team	TPF Including Handicap	Pts.
5 — C. Schraub	44125	172
1 — C. Fisher	43895	171
3 — W. Emery	44011	167
4 — D. Sabine	43707	158
2 — R. D. Lowry	42133	104
6 — B. Flatley	41732	87
7 — McCarthy	38973	75

High Singles for the Year
Arthur Nicholson 135
P. Tinkham 114

High 3-String for the Year
Pasquale Arrigo 358
Jeannette Byda 269

High Average for the Year
Robert Hart 104
C. Lowry 85

Division B — 746 Pts.

Team	TPF Including Handicap	Pts.
11 — W. Sprague	42926	141
9 — C. Spalding	42604	118
10 — M. Nelson	42210	106
14 — J. Healy	42338	105
13 — D. Carmichael	41953	102
12 — J. Mazza	39506	94
8 — E. Murphy	40137	80

High Singles for the Year
W. Sprague 128
S. Meek 120

High 3-String for the Year
George Makrokanis 320
Mary Rose Campbell 300

High Average for the Year
Robert Hill 92
Sheila Meek 90

FRIENDS' NOTES

The Friends of the Deaconess' annual Night at the Pops netted approximately $1500, and contributions are still coming in! Pops Night was a great success both socially and financially. The Pops' perennial favorite, Leo Litwin, was soloist, and the entire program was excellent. Everyone had a wonderful time.

Come in for bargains at the Thrift Shop before it closes for the summer season on June 9. The Shop will be open every day June 5th through 9th. It will reopen at a new location (surprise) about the first week in October.

Here and There

Mrs. Annie Watkins, OR staff nurse, has recently returned from her vacation in Tennessee and Kentucky.

Congratulations to Mary MacRitchie, Assistant Supervisor, OR, on being promoted to the rank of Major in the US Army Nurse Corps Reserve.

Ann Cotter, receptionist, wishes to thank all her friends for the cards and flowers sent to her while she was a patient in the hospital.

Dr. Needham Long and his wife Mary Wynn have recently returned from vacationing below the Mason-Dixon line. Relatives and friends were visited on their trips to Winston-Salem, N. C., Birmingham, Alabama, and Lake Cumberland and Louisville, Kentucky.

Milton Nelson, Credit Manager, was guest speaker at the Medical Credits Division of Credit Bureau, Inc. of Greater Springfield on April 24. His topic was "The Business End of Medical and Dental Care".

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JUNE, 1961

NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL, BOSTON 15, MASSACHUSETTS

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COFFEE BREAK — Enjoying a pause at the Regional Institute on Operating Room Nursing are, left to right, Deaconess nurses Dorothy Carmichael, Margaret Burns, Susan Creutzberger, Mary MacRitchie and Laurette Proulx.

OR NURSES SPEAK AT INSTITUTE

The Sheraton Plaza Hotel was the setting for the Regional Institute on Operating Room Nursing presented by the Association of Operating Room Nurses of Massachusetts on April 13 through 15. Ruth Pendleton, Director of Surgeries at the Deaconess, and Mary Schwendeman, Chairman of the organization's Committee on Education, spoke at the last day's session on "Improving Performance Through Simplified Techniques", with a discussion period following.

Margaret Burns, Associate Director of Surgeries, also gave a talk at the Institute. Her topic was "The Use of Surgical Technicians and Auxiliary Personnel in the Operating Room".

Several Deaconess Hospital operating room nurses attended the sessions, returning to the hospital with many valuable new ideas on operating room techniques.

Miss Harding Moves

Miss Orianna Harding has recently moved from the Deaconess Hospital apartments on Autumn Street and is now living in the newly opened Shore Cliff, a home run by the New England Deaconess Association in Magnolia, Massachusetts.

The home, which is located near the ocean and has a beautiful view of the water, was dedicated on April 16th. Miss Harding is one of the first residents in the building.

Although Miss Harding is no longer at the Deaconess, she still takes an active interest in the hospital and its personnel. She would appreciate hearing from her friends at the hospital. Her new address is Shore Cliff, Shore and Cliff Roads, Magnolia, Massachusetts.

Weddings

Marion Healey, class of 1960, to Linwood G. Hill on May 6.

Elaine Drago, CRI technician, to Paul O'Brien on May 13.

Nancy Mae Smith, class of 1961, to Richard A. Pettigrew, on April 9.

Jane MacDonald, bacteriologist, to Douglas T. Hawes in April.

Linda L. Mann, class of 1959, to Richard D. Kennedy in April.

Marcia Duwart, staff nurse, to John W. Tripp in April.

Engagements

Marie Coy, CRI technician, to Paul Cavanagh of Waban.

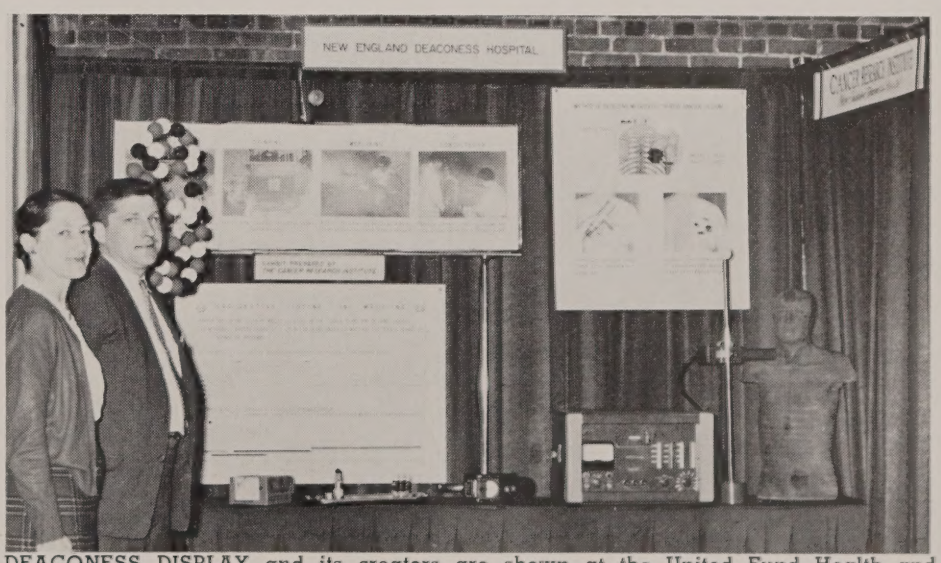
Mary Ide, CRI technician, to Eugene Dawson, Jr., of Denver, Colorado.

Pamela Pickens, lab technician, to Donald McLaughlin of Boston.

ANNIE MAY RETIRES

Retiring after eighteen years of service to the Deaconess Hospital is Annie May, transcriber in the Medical Record Room. Miss May, who will be 83 years old this August, came to the Deaconess in 1943 after retiring from her former position at the age of 65. Her many friends at the Deaconess will attest to the fact that age was by no means a deterrant to her capabilities and capacity for work.

Miss May, who is recovering from a broken heel suffered during the Christmas holidays, will be greatly missed at the Deaconess. We all wish her the best of luck and a quick return to health.



DEACONESS DISPLAY and its creators are shown at the United Fund Health and Fitness Fair. Mrs. Kathryn Haley and Charles Spaulding will present the display soon in the lobby of Central I. As a new policy, informational exhibits will be shown regularly in the lobby outside the doctors' lounge.

RADIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The New England Deaconess Hospital's Department of Radiology now occupies the entire second floor of the modern Central Building. A specially designed sub-basement room houses the hospital's 2,000,000-volt X-ray machine.

When the Palmer Memorial Unit of the Deaconess Hospital was opened in 1927, it included an X-ray therapy machine operating at 180,000 volts. In 1935, a 400,000 volt machine was added — the first therapy machine to operate at more than 200,000 volts in New England. This machine was also the first oil-immersed and oil-cooled, constant potential unit to be built for operation at this voltage by the General Electric X-ray Corporation. The earlier 180,000 volt machine has long since been replaced by a unit operating at 250,000 volts for general purpose therapy and a 140,000 volt unit for superficial therapy. A 300,000-volt machine has also been acquired.

In the field of therapeutic radiology, many patients with benign or malignant tumors, through the years have greatly benefitted from radiation therapy. And although cases of "cures" or "arrests" of cancer are the most dramatic, radiation therapy is beneficial in a great many non-malignant diseases as well for relief of pain, cough and hemoptysis. It may be of great help even where a cure is not obtained.

Radiation therapy — including x-rays, radium, and radioactive isotopes — may occasionally be curative when the area involved is already beyond the reach of surgery, but only if the tumor is of the type said to be radiosensitive. The term radiosensitive refers to those tumors which may be completely destroyed by amounts of radiation which do little or no damage to adjacent, uninvolved tissues.

Because of this, only carefully selected patients are judged suitable for treatment on the high-voltage machines. The patient whose disease is such that only short-term palliation is to be hoped for, can be treated just as well on a conventional x-ray machine operating at 200,000 to 300,000 volts. Skin cancers and some other superficial lesions can best be treated at 140,000 volts. The Deaconess has excellent machines of these two types and continues to use them as valuable weapons.

Before the new Central Building was completed in 1953, the Department of Radiology was divided into two parts. One part was in the Deaconess Building, and the other on the first floor of Palmer Building.

The department has one very interesting machine with which all members of the hospital are familiar — the photo-roentgen unit. This is a machine on which survey examinations of the chest are made, and the Deaconess Hospital is one of the first hospitals in New England to have such a unit. The photo-roentgen examination of the chest is an extremely important part of the medical examination of prospective employees, and is repeated annually to employees for checkup. The unit is also used as a routine survey on most patients as they enter the hospital. The x-ray room is handily located next to the Admitting Office, so that newly admitted patients need not be sent out of their way for this part of their initial examination. This chest x-ray service is also available to out-patients at low cost.

Included in the original plans for the Central Building was a one-million volt x-ray machine which the hospital had been interested in acquiring for several years. Then, in 1953, progress in x-ray technology and the availability of the necessary funds provided by the Godfrey M. Hyams Trust and by other generous friends of the hospital permitted the purchase of a two-million volt machine, made by the General Electric Company.

The machine, which was delivered to the hospital on March 10, 1954, was put in operation two months later. Useful to carefully selected patients requiring deep therapy, the two-million volt x-ray machine provides radiation in greater quantity than one million dollars worth of radium.

The machine is housed in a subterranean room whose walls are two feet thick. The concrete used is denser and stronger than the mixture normally used for foundations.

The total cost of the two million volt machine was $112,000, and the total cost of the room in which it operates was $97,000.

During the past two years, all radiographic procedures in the department have been carried out using the new and faster films which have become available. All the hospital's radiographic screens are also of the fast type. With these and other advances in technique the department strives to conduct all radiographic and fluoroscopic examinations with a minimum amount of radiation to the patient who is undergoing diagnostic tests.

In 1960, the X-ray Department acquired a combination radiographic and fluoroscopic unit with image amplifier and cine-camera. This cine-camera was donated to the hospital by a group of grateful patients. It has already provided interesting studies of the heart and great vessels, and muscular activity of the urinary tract and the esophagus. It is expected that these studies will aid materially in the solution of different diagnostic problems.

The use of high-voltage radiation therapy has continued to receive special attention in the department. The results obtained through the use of radiation therapy have been enhanced by its use in connection with new chemical agents. Favorable responses have recently been secured in dealing with tumors which were previously though to be highly radio-resistant. During the past two years the Department of Radiology's work load increased 10%. With the continual changes in the practice of medicine, there has been a demand and a necessity for increased assistance from our X-ray Department.

NEW CENSUS RECORD

We reported that March was the busiest month in the 65-year history of the Deaconess, but even that record was broken in April! This past month showed an average daily census of 345, and a total of 10,338 patient days. This exceptionally high census placed a heavy work load on all departments. Much credit must be given to our employees for their outstanding performance, and for service, at times, "beyond the call of duty".